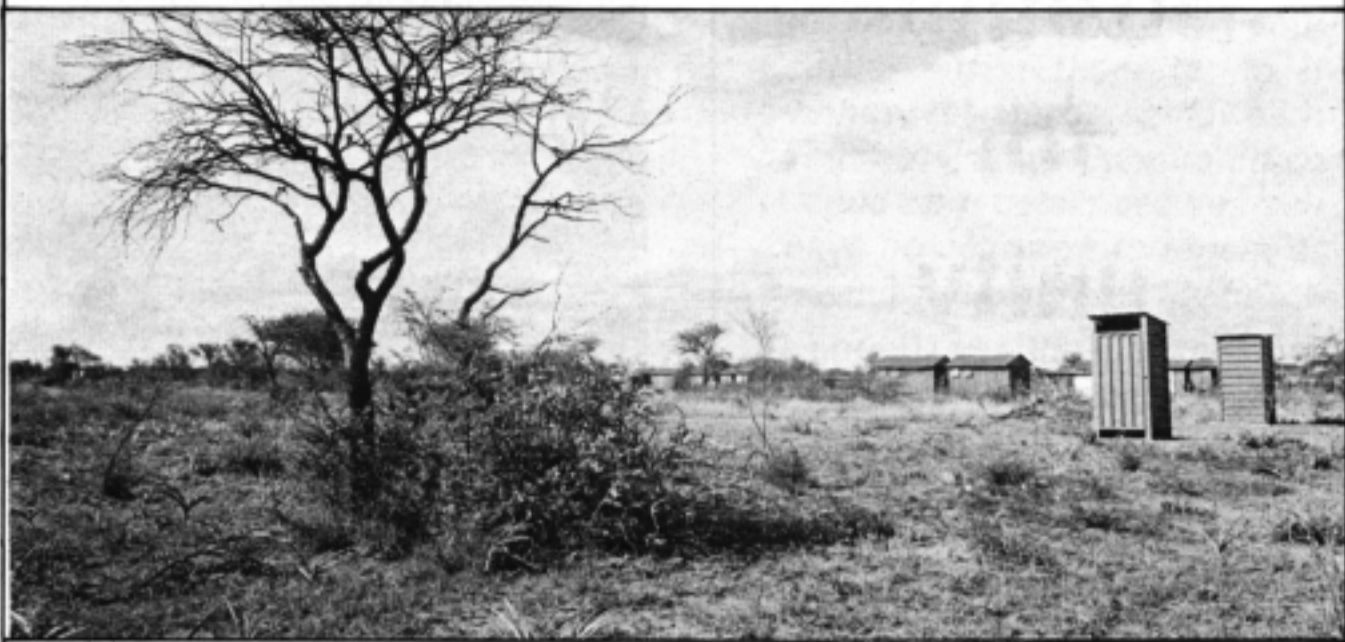


The victims of Pretoria



Resettlement: The real conflict

The so-called "non-aggression" pacts in vogue in Southern Africa cannot wipe off the legacy of the colonial domination and exploitation in the region.

Such pacts are definitely a setback to the cause of the oppressed of the world as the unfolding drama of Lebanon is amply demonstrating.

The victor in the contest of Southern Africa is the white racist and unrepresentative minority Pretoria regime and the cause of both imperialism and neo-imperialism.

The Komatipoort pact signing is not for the comfort and progress of our people in Southern Africa and Africa as a whole.

This regime has perfected its ignoble art of blood-suing. In the wake of its de-mobilising strategy, it has left political observers confused.

This country has not introduced a new element in its pursuit of war in Southern Africa and thus to talk of South Africa's "peace initiative" is a gross distortion of the forces locked in a death struggle in the region.

This country's warlords have long perceived that economic blackmail and direct military invasion and aggression constitute their twin weapons.

Diplomatic political stunts only serve as a smokescreen to hide the real nature and development of the conflict.

The primary conflict in South Africa is that of land and all attempts to reduce the struggle to one for civil rights or anti-apartheid, can only buy time for those who wield power!

One black Azanian aptly stated this as follows: "The black man's struggle can never be won or lost outside the borders of the country."

The inevitable resolution of Southern Africa's dilemma shall come only on terms set by the black man.

The problem is internal and is that of the oppression and exploitation of millions of black people.

Whichever way one looks at it, this

great mass of people is a deciding factor for the solution of this country's problems.

This country's offensive coupled with its racist internal political machinations can be summed up as a time-buying device.

The work of the military security police and intelligence networks, has not blunted or numbed black people's quest for the true humanity in the country.

This has never, and shall never, be cause for despair and apathy.

The clock seems to have turned full circle among the Frontline States.

Dr Hastings Banda, Malawi's President and strongman, and a few unstable African leaders fell victims of South Africa's abortive detente exercise in the 70s.

Time, however, will tell how many this time will follow Banda to "dine with the devil as long as it will bring prosperity and gain to my people and country".

Maybe for Banda it was an opportunistic voluntary action.

The situation today is different, most Southern African states have been battered to submission through what is perceived to be the ultimate realisation of economic priorities and internal stability — and all the time Pretoria is calling the tune.

The recent happenings are indeed a setback to the liberation movement in general, but it must be pointed out that this will only help to accelerate

the liberating efforts of those movements operating within the country.

It is indeed foolhardy of this country's present rulers to regard their problems as externally motivated and therefore needing an external solution.

We must, however, realise that the reasons which made South Africa anathema remain true as those we hold against Nazi Germany and its gas chambers.

We cannot, however, expect Africa to submit to South Africa's military, technological and economic advantage.

We must at all times be aware that the present regime cannot in the same breath be surrogates for efforts of change.

They are only capable of bringing about reform, which by and large, is aimed at perpetrating their class ideology and control.

Reform is not aimed at making the oppressed totally free but to make them unwilling partners of their own oppressors.

At best it teaches them to adapt to their situation of oppression, in keeping with the philosophy of making good out of a bad situation.

This is what this year's ethnic elections are all about.

It is with this in mind that black people are wary of all efforts by the unrepresentative government and the elite white capitalist class at reform.